

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the Application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-20. Canceled.

21. (Currently Amended) A method for accessing a site within a body, comprising:
inserting a flexible cannula into a body;
inserting a distal end of a first elongate member into a first lumen of the cannula;
detachably attaching the distal end of the first elongate member to the cannula;
steering the distal end of the cannula to a desired site in the body by manipulating a proximal end of the first elongate member, said manipulation comprising pulling the proximal end of the first elongate member relative to the cannula; and
detaching the distal end of the first elongate member from the cannula, and removing the first elongate member from the first lumen of the cannula; and
delivering an object or substance to the body site through the first cannula lumen,
wherein the object or substance is delivered through the first lumen after the first elongate member has been removed.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~23~~ 21, wherein the object is selected from the group consisting of at least a portion of a guidewire, at least a portion of an ablation device, at least a portion of an imaging device, an optical fiber, a therapeutic element, a diagnostic element, and an implant.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the cannula has a second lumen extending between ends of the cannula, the method further comprising delivering an object or substance to the body site through the second cannula lumen.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein the object is selected from the group consisting of at least a portion of a guidewire, at least a portion of an ablation device, at least a portion of an imaging device, an optical fiber, a therapeutic element, a diagnostic element, and an implant.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising inserting a distal end of a second elongate member into a second lumen of the cannula, and attaching the distal end of the second elongate member to the cannula.

28. (Currently amended) A method for accessing a site within a body, comprising:
inserting a flexible cannula into a body;
inserting a distal end of a first elongate member into a first lumen of the cannula to thereby stiffen at least a portion of the cannula;

detachably attaching the distal end of the first elongate member to the cannula;
manipulating a proximal end of the cannula to thereby place the distal end of the
cannula at a desired position in the body, wherein said manipulation comprises one of
applying tension to the first elongate member or releasing tension in the first elongate
member; and

detaching the distal end of the first elongate member from the cannula, and
removing the first elongate member from the first lumen of the cannula; and

delivering an object or substance to the body through the first cannula lumen,
wherein the object or substance is delivered through the first lumen after the first elongate
member has been removed.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~30~~28, wherein the object is
selected from the group consisting of at least a portion of a guidewire, at least a portion of
an ablation device, at least a portion of an imaging device, an optical fiber, a therapeutic
element, a diagnostic element, and an implant.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, wherein the cannula has a
second lumen extending between ends of the cannula, the method further comprising
delivering an object or substance to the body site through the second cannula lumen.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, wherein the object is selected from the group consisting of at least a portion of a guidewire, at least a portion of an ablation device, at least a portion of an imaging device, an optical fiber, a therapeutic element, a diagnostic element, and an implant.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, further comprising inserting a distal end of a second elongate member into a second lumen of the cannula, and attaching the distal end of the second elongate member to the cannula.

35-38. (Cancelled)

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the distal end of the first elongate member is detachably attached to the cannula by inflating an expandable member disposed on the first elongate member.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the distal end of the first elongate member is detachably attached to the cannula by inflating an expandable member disposed on the cannula.

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, wherein the distal end of the

first elongate member is detachably attached to the cannula by inflating an expandable member disposed on the first elongate member.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, wherein the distal end of the first elongate member is detachably attached to the cannula by inflating an expandable member disposed on the cannula.

44. (Cancelled)

45. (New) A method for accessing a site within a body, comprising:
inserting a flexible cannula into a body;
inserting a distal end of a first elongate member into a first lumen of the cannula to thereby stiffen at least a portion of the cannula;
detachably attaching the distal end of the first elongate member to the cannula;
inserting a distal end of a second elongate member into a second lumen of the cannula, and attaching the distal end of the second elongate member to the cannula;
manipulating a proximal end of the cannula to thereby place the distal end of the cannula at a desired position in the body, wherein said manipulation comprises one of applying tension to the first or second elongate members or releasing tension in the first or second elongate members; and
delivering an object or substance to the body through a working lumen of the catheter.